

more to the editor

Redistricting plans 'good'

During the current ASWSU election, some candidates advocate redistricting the campus for more democratic representation. This would be an excellent idea because it would allow more people to become involved in ASWSU, promote contact between the representatives and their constituencies, facilitate communications between the committees and the assembly, and make ASWSU assembly meetings operate more effectively.

Presently there are 18 representatives for some 16,000 ASWSU students. Each representative represents approximately 890 constituents. If the Assembly were increased to twice its size, with each assemblyperson representing half the present number, this would allow more people to become involved. ASWSU could not help benefiting from more and varying inputs of students with different opinions.

A smaller number of constituents would enable each assemblyperson to be more receptive to these constituents because he/she would know

them better. Presently, some representatives represent up to eight dorms (Dist. 9) or the complete off-campus population. Many representatives do not have much contact with their whole constituency, simply because of large numbers involved or geographic differences. If more students could personally know their representatives, such as through everyday contact in their living groups, the ASWSU would benefit.

With more ASWSU assemblypeople elected, there would be better contact between the communities and the assembly. Presently ASWSU has 35 committees, but only 18 representatives. Each representative is supposed to serve as a liaison between one committee and the assembly. There simply aren't enough assemblypeople to go around! With better contact, events such as PAC's recent concert controversy could be avoided.

Presently only one district

needs a primary. More candidates could be encouraged to run for offices if they weren't scared away by such a prodigious time commitment. Also, how often have ASWSU meetings been rendered inoperable due to lack of quorum? With more representatives, the quorum would increase, but so would the chances of reaching it. Not everyone has ten tests the next day!

Admittedly, this redistricting is not without problems. The ASWSU constitution would need to be rewritten, and perhaps half a dorm would be in one district and the other half in another. I don't see any problems in increasing the number of District 1 (off-campus), 2 (Greeks) or at large representatives. A 36-member assembly would not be too involved or cumbersome. It would increase involvement in student government, make the representation more democratic, and solve some of the Assembly's internal problems. How about it candidates?

— Melissa A. Swan

DIGGS



A dying town

I, Dan R. Antoni, accuse you, the mayor of Pullman and our illustrious city council of murder. Our town is dying. The Sears' and Penney's closure is common knowledge but we may also add to the death list Floyd's Shoe Shop, Coorads, Image Studios

Creighton's and possibly several others.

City officials' negative decisions with regard to new potential employers is having a detrimental effect on existing as well as future retail business. Their refusal to approve Koppel's light manufacturing plant is clear evidence of this attitude. What will be left when the ax stops swinging and Pullman's life blood is gone? Let's hope the voters remember this in November.

— Dan R. Antoni

Intolerance editorial called intolerant

Entitled "Fear gets 'no' vote," Friday's editorial told those of us who oppose funding of Gay Awareness that we are conservative, intolerant fearmongers. It seems an exceedingly intolerant view of "intolerance."

I consider myself moderately tolerant, particularly of those things which seem reasonable, yet I must remain opposed to "gay" funding.

I am not opposed to protecting homosexuals and their rights. In spite of being a Christian, I believe the homosexual is created approximately equal to myself. He (or she) should have the right to live and work as he wishes, have sex with whomever he wishes — all that good stuff. And, if the homosexual community here sought ASWSU money to disseminate unbiased information regarding its lifestyle, there is even a possibility I would favor that as a worthy cause.

But, given the brand of information currently being dispensed by the GAC (and relayed in the pages of the Daily Evergreen), I cannot fathom how my opposition can in any way be construed as "intolerance."

Unbiased speakers or at least a balanced viewpoint — this I could support. But instead we must endure unrelenting sermonizing designed to convince us that homosexuals are not only equal but IDENTICAL to heterosexuals, or, for example, that my capacity to love my father qualifies me for homosexual status based on some recently invented definition.

The latest weapon in the battle to obtain for homosexuality the stamp of approval is the argument that hetero/homo are not distinguishable categories — that we are each a little of both. Your editorial claims that knowledge destroys fear. But it is an

argument such as that which the GAC attempts to offer as "knowledge" which creates fear in me.

Until I commit my first murder, I would prefer to remain free from fear that I might be labeled a "murderer." And until I change my preference in the opposite sex category, I'll fight to maintain my identity as a hetero. I remain unconvinced that my definition of homosexuality is overly restrictive.

If the GAC wishes to spread the knowledge that some persons believe homosexuality to be a

valid alternative lifestyle, fine, — it's done its job — let's put our pennies elsewhere. But many of us will continue to ask that we be allowed to believe that sexual mode is a personal choice, and will continue to believe there is a distinction between those choices.

I don't think it's intolerant of me to exhibit no desire to spend my pennies to have someone "intolerantly" attempt to cram his lifestyle and rationalization into my sense of morality or reality.

— John Leenders

Button your pants

In the midst of the post-Christmas holiday rush of pregnancy tests and counseling, I thought it apt to forewarn students about the spring holidays. Often couples are reunited after time apart, and unexpected, unprotected intercourse occurs, resulting in unwanted pregnancy

later. Even if the chance of intercourse seems remote, we urge men and women to assume the responsibility to be prepared — prevention is the best protection. Do enjoy the sun, flowers, and other joys of spring!

— Barbara J. Lawson
Family Planning Center

Opinion ignored

It seems that ASWSU is going to have a GAC whether it is wanted or not. In last Friday's Evergreen, a GAC spokesperson stated that if the referendum succeeds, and the assembly accepts the results, GAC will take legal action. However, "if the referendum doesn't pass it will show that the majority of the students want it (GAC)."

This attitude by the GAC is

deplorable. Apparently, student opinion is valid only if it favors your viewpoint. Resorting to legal action as a last resort to keep GAC on campus will only increase the ranks of those opposed to it, and threatening to do this shows intolerance on the part of GAC to student opinion, should it not favor them.

— Marshall Lane

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